

Maternal and Child Health

The Office of Family Health (OFH) is the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) agency of the Oregon Public Health Division (PHD) in the state health department. Our office has many opportunities due to the breadth of programs and databases available: Maternal Child Health (Perinatal, Child, and Adolescent Health), Women's & Reproductive Health, Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention, Oral Health, Genetics, Immunizations, and the Nutrition & Health Screening for Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC).

The MCH Epidemiology Fellow will be located in the maternal and child section of OFH and have the opportunity to work with other Research Analysts across programs. Work will include learning about the complimentary roles of state and local programs, surveillance systems in public health, program and surveillance system evaluation, survey design and methods, and study design and data analysis for presentations and publications. Oregon has hosted three MCH Epidemiology Fellows since 2001.

The following are a list of potential projects reflecting the databases and program breadth available in Oregon:

- PRAMS: Oregon conducts both the PRAMS survey and PRAMS-2, a follow-up survey that re-interviews PRAMS respondents when the child is 2 years old. The Fellow will join the PRAMS team, learn how the data are collected, analyze data from PRAMS and PRAMS-2, weight the PRAMS-2 survey data, and be the first to analyze PRAMS-2 data.
- National Survey of Children's Health: Partner with the MCH program to further analyze the NSCH data and shape policy discuss based on study results.
- ESRBS /YRBS: Design and carry out studies using data from Oregon Elementary School Risk Behavior Survey of 4th-6th graders and the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System around mental health issues, physical activity, obesity and tobacco use.
- BRFSS: Design and carry out studies using data from Oregon Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System around women's health issues and family history.
- ORCHIDS: The Oregon Perinatal and Child Health Data System collects client level data across three home visiting programs. 1) Design and conduct a program evaluation, 2) analyze and compare client risk factors across counties, 3) conduct an analysis to assess the effectiveness of selected program interventions with desired outcomes.

- WIC: The WIC program has a database of client level nutritional interventions with prenatal women and their children. Evaluate effectiveness of program interventions such as proportion of clients taking multivitamins containing folic acid, or longitudinal review of BMI weights.
- Family Planning: Design and carry out longitudinal studies using client level data from the Family Planning database targeting health disparities.
- FamilyNet: OFH is creating a single, cumulative record for each client by linking MCH program modules. The FamilyNet data system will provide the ability to track intermediate and high-level outcomes, and a data mart for population-based analysis of high priority maternal and child health indicators. Design and carry out cross-program studies.
- Needs Assessment: The Title V (federal maternal child health block grant) 5 year needs assessment will be conducted in 2009. Participate in the development of the framework, data design, and lead research associates in compiling and interpreting data for program staff.
- Surveillance System Evaluation: Evaluate the first year of data from the PRAMS-2 survey to determine whether questions should be changed and to assess adequacy of response rate.
- Immunizations: ALERT, Oregon's statewide registry captures immunizations from over 95% of Oregon's children, offering opportunities for population-based analysis of public health trends, outbreak surveillance and program evaluation.
- Statewide Publications: Oregon has multiple publication vehicles for getting public health information out to local, state and public partners. Write for multiple audiences (health care providers, newspapers, etc) about new MCH developments.

Assignment Location: Portland, Oregon

Primary Mentor: Kenneth Rosenberg, MD, MPH
Maternal and Child Health Epidemiologist
Oregon Public Health Division Office of Family Health

Advanced Degrees: MPH, Columbia University (1989)
MD, Tufts University (1973)

Secondary Mentor: Katherine Bradley, PhD, RN
Administrator, Office of Family Health
Public Health Division Oregon Department of Health Services

Advanced Degrees:

PhD, University of Kansas (2000)

MN, University of Washington (1981)